

LABIDOCERA MAGNA.

MY DEAR SIR,—In my paper in the 'Annals' for last March, I stated that *Labidocera magna* comes from the Pacific: will you allow me to take this opportunity of correcting my mistake? It inhabits the Atlantic S. lat. $18^{\circ} 40'$, W. long. $2^{\circ} 30'$.

Believe me, yours sincerely,

To Dr. Francis.

J. LUBBOCK.

Observations on the Anatomy of the Antennæ in a small species of Crustacean. By JOHN D. M'DONALD, M.D., Assistant Surgeon to H.M.S.V. Torch.

The little crustacean which is the subject of this paper was taken in considerable numbers in the voyage from St. Vincent to Rio Janeiro. There are several anatomical peculiarities mentioned, but the most remarkable is the structure of the right antenna of the male. These organs are in the female perfectly symmetrical, and resemble that of the left side in the male; and although in the very young state of the latter sex the right antenna differs but little in external appearance from the left, yet the peculiar hypertrophied condition of the modified segments in the corresponding organ of the adult male is to be distinctly traced in a rudimentary state.

As the animal lives in the open ocean, none of the limbs are adapted for walking; but when placed in a vessel of sea-water, they rested upon their antennæ on reaching the bottom, and paddled themselves about by their fore-limbs and tail.

The author remarks that in all their movements the males exhibit a tendency to turn towards the left side, and concludes the rationale of this fact to be, that the brain on the right side being more developed at the part from which the right antenna derives its nerves, a corresponding predominance is given to the power of the locomotive organs on that side.

When fully developed, each antenna in both sexes consists of twenty-five segments. Of these, the first thirteen present nothing remarkable; but all the remaining pieces on the right side enter into the composition of the curious prehensile organ which forms the principal subject of the paper.

This organ is composed in the following manner:—The fourteenth and four following segments are dilated into a large flask-like organ, the neck of which is eked out by the nineteenth and twentieth. The next two segments are fused together, and are articulated with the foregoing by a simple joint, and the whole of the remaining segments form another piece similarly articulated with the intermediate piece; so that the whole results in two simple joints susceptible of flexion in one direction only. On the eighteenth segment is a barbed process having its apex directed backwards, and its anterior border beset with sharp teeth. Two processes of the same nature, but differently placed and more elongated, lie side by side upon the fore-part of the first compound segment. This piece and

that which succeeds it act upon each other like a pair of jaws, each furnished with an array of sharp conical teeth, while the last compound member of the series plays over the upper surface of the eighteenth segment.

The author then proceeds to describe the muscles which move this complex apparatus. The extensors are small and feeble, but the flexors are, as might be anticipated, more complex and powerful. They are two in number. The first has its origin in the large flask-like dilatation, and is inserted by a tendon into the second compound piece, from which the second muscle arises, and is inserted, also by tendon, into the third piece.—*Proc. Roy. Soc.*

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR APRIL 1853.

Chiswick.—April 1. Rather boisterous: fine. 2. Cloudy: fine: hazy. 3. Overcast: showery. 4. Cloudy: very fine: rain. 5. Densely overcast: rain: clear. 6. Overcast throughout. 7. Overcast: very fine: clear. 8. Fine: heavy thunderstorm: clear at night frosty. 9. Clear: fine, but cold: overcast. 10. Overcast. 11. Overcast: fine: overcast. 12. Clear: fine: overcast. 13. Cloudy and cold: rain: clear: sharp frost at night. 14. Cloudy. 15, 16. Overcast throughout. 17. Fine: overcast. 18. Very fine. 19. Cloudy: rain. 20. Low white clouds and cold. 21. Rain. 22. Constant rain. 23. Fine. 24. Heavy rain. 25. Snow early A.M., boisterous, with rain. 26. Fine. 27. Hoar-frost: very fine. 28. Light haze: fine. 29. Cold rain. 30. Overcast: very fine.

Mean temperature of the month	44°·93
Mean temperature of April 1852	44·81
Mean temperature of April for the last twenty-seven years .	47·21
Average amount of rain in April	1·65 inch.

Boston.—April 1. Fine: rain A.M. 2. Fine: rain P.M. 3. Cloudy: rain P.M. 4. Cloudy: rain A.M. and P.M. 5. Cloudy. 6. Cloudy: rain P.M. 7. Fine. 8. Cloudy: rain and hail A.M. and P.M. 9. Fine. 10, 11. Cloudy. 12. Fine. 13. Cloudy: rain A.M. 14—18. Cloudy. 19. Cloudy: rain P.M. 20. Cloudy: rain A.M. 21. Cloudy. 22. Cloudy: rain A.M. 23. Fine. 24. Fine: hail A.M. 25. Rain: rain A.M. and P.M. 26. Fine. 27. Fine: rain A.M. 28. Fine. 29. Cloudy: rain P.M. 30. Cloudy.

Sandwich Manse, Orkney.—April 1. Drizzle A.M.: rain P.M. 2. Damp A.M. and P.M. 3. Showers A.M.: damp P.M. 4. Hazy A.M.: showers P.M. 5. Showers A.M.: cloudy, S. aurora P.M. 6. Rain A.M.: showers, S. aurora P.M. 7. Showers A.M.: showers, S. aurora P.M. 8. Hail-showers A.M. and P.M. 9. Clear A.M.: rain P.M. 10. Showers A.M.: rain P.M. 11. Bright A.M.: cloudy P.M. 12. Showers A.M.: clear P.M. 13. Drops A.M. and P.M. 14. Clear A.M.: cloudy P.M. 15, 16. Drops A.M. and P.M. 17. Bright A.M.: drops P.M. 18. Showers A.M.: drops P.M. 19. Drops A.M.: rain P.M. 20. Clear A.M.: clear, fine, aurora P.M. 21. Hoar-frost A.M.: clear, fine, aurora P.M. 22. Bright A.M.: hazy, large halo P.M. 23. Showers A.M.: drops P.M. 24. Bright A.M.: sleet-showers P.M. 25. Sleet-showers A.M.: hail-showers P.M. 26. Bright A.M.: clear P.M. 27. Showers A.M.: drops P.M. 28. Clear A.M.: showers P.M. 29. Bright A.M.: clear P.M. 30. Cloudy A.M.: clear P.M.

Mean temperature of April for twenty-six previous years ...	43°·44
Mean temperature of April 1852	47·64
Mean temperature of this month	44·49
Average quantity of rain in April for seven previous years .	1·73 inch.